



3724

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Examiner: Nguyen, Phong H.

Morehead

Group Art Unit: 3724

Serial No.: 10/071,888

Attorney Docket: 1650.112.1

Filed: 8 February 2002

Assignee: Wilson Tool International, Inc.

CD
11/16/04
~~11/17/04~~
RECEIVED
DEC 17 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

For: BALL-LOCK INSERT ASSEMBLIES

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

To: Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

- ☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
☐ facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office
☐ hand delivered to the Patent and Trademark Office

on this 11 day of December, 2003

By M. Delaney & Thompson

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicant's representatives would like to thank Examiners Nguyen and Shoap for extending them the courtesy of a personal interview on 27 October 2003 to discuss this case. The following recordation of the substance of the interview is believed to be complete and proper, in accordance with MPEP 713.04. It is requested that the Examiner notify the undersigned if the Examiner believes this Interview Summary contains any inaccuracies or if the Examiner believes this Summary is otherwise not complete and proper.

Interview participants: (1) Examiner Phong H. Nguyen; (2) Examiner Alan Shoap; (3) Applicant's attorney, Eric J. Snustad; and (4) Applicant's technical expert, Glen Shuldes.

Prototypes of certain preferred embodiments of the invention were shown during the interview for demonstration purposes, in accordance with MPEP 713.08. In particular, Applicant's expert, Glen Shuldes, showed prototype ball-lock insert assemblies and a prototype holder plate. Mr. Shuldes demonstrated the preferred feature of the holder plate having a mount opening that extends entirely through the holder plate. Finally, Mr. Shuldes demonstrated the manner in which the assemblies can be assembled, the manner in which the assemblies can be mounted in the holder plate, and the manner in which the assemblies can be removed from the holder plate.

Claims 29-36 were discussed during the interview.

The following prior art was discussed during the interview: (1) U.S. Patent 1,910,296 (King); and (2) U.S. Patent 1,938,440 (Richard).

No agreement was reached during the interview, but the Examiners suggested claiming the first and second openings as intersecting each other, along with claiming the resiliently-biased engagement member in the insert. The Examiners also suggested replacing the claim language indicating that the mount opening opens through the front surface of the holder plate with language indicating that the mount opening extends entirely through the holder plate.

Following are the proposed amendments that were discussed during the interview:

The possibility was discussed, with respect to claim 29, to indicate that first and second elongated openings are formed in the holder plate, and that the second opening (the mount opening) is formed so as to extend entirely through the holder plate.

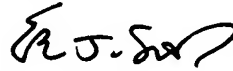
The general thrust of the principal arguments made was that the cited references fail to disclose a holder plate in which there is formed both a shank opening and a mount opening,

wherein the mount opening is adapted to receive the claimed ball-lock insert assembly and extends entirely through the holder plate, e.g., King shows a blind pocket design, and Richard does not show a holder plate with a shank opening and a mount opening adapted to receive the claimed ball-lock insert assembly.

The Examiners suggested rejoinder of the apparatus claims may be permitted depending on the resulting claims. No other pertinent matters were discussed during the interview.

Dated: 11 December 2003

Respectfully submitted,



Eric J. Snustad
Registration No. 45,120
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
4000 Pillsbury Center
200 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 492-7151

#2893682\1